

“B” Rated Weeds

A weed of economic importance which is regionally abundant,
but may have limited distribution in some counties

Yellow archangel
Lamiastrum galeobdolon

Other common names: Artillary plant,
aluminum plant

USDA symbol: LAGA2
ODA rating: B



Introduction: *Lamiastrum galeobdolon* is a perennial in the mint family, with showy yellow flowers that make it popular in gardens. Non-native to the United States, it has been observed becoming naturalized in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Virginia by the USDA in 2009. It has spread to other areas of the US as well including Washington and Oregon, particularly in the urban-wildland interface. The aggressive nature of the plant and its ability to escape its original planting site have concerned local resource managers as its spread has increased over time.

Distribution: Wild populations are generally associated with yard debris dumping. It can be found mostly in the more moist NW Oregon counties.

Description: Leaves are typically variegated with silvery-grey markings and are oval-shaped and toothed. Stems are square, leaves are opposite. Leaves are hairy and coarsely toothed. Flowers are small, yellow and tubular; they grow in pairs of clusters close to stems between leaves on flowering stems that are 1 to 2 feet tall. Distinctive, non-menthol and somewhat unpleasant odor. (courtesy King County Wash.)

Impacts: The long ground-hugging stolons can grow one meter outward per year giving it a competitive advantage in habitats with varying environmental conditions. This horizontal spread enable the plant to root in one place and carry out photosynthesis in another over short distances. It also can increase *L. galeobdolon*'s infestation size rapidly. Disturbances such as logging in *L. galeobdolon* infested forests stimulate plant growth, increasing the infestation size quickly. The highest productivity and largest seed-set are found in lightly shaded woodlands and in hedgerows on moist nutrient rich soils. The species has been observed spreading over extensive areas in its native woodland floor, and grows in associated with various other native species in its native range.

